

this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Michelle Morway is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Michelle Morway for winning the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE GREATER SACRAMENTO URBAN LEAGUE

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 26, 2016

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Greater Sacramento Urban League. As the Urban League's members and friends celebrate its accomplishments and its significant impact on our community at the 2016 Annual Unity Ball, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Urban League as a positive force for change in Sacramento.

Since 1968, the Greater Sacramento Urban League has been a community advocate for the underserved in our Sacramento region. The Urban League offers a wide variety of services, including youth development, tutoring, and classes. It has assisted thousands of people by giving them the tools to become more empowered and educated, which strengthens the workforce in our community and improves the bonds that tie Sacramento's neighborhoods together.

Being honored tonight with the Legacy Award is James Shelby, former President and CEO of the Greater Sacramento Urban League. Mr. Shelby is legendary among those who work for social change; for over twenty years under his leadership, the Greater Sacramento Urban League grew and thrived. Replacing Mr. Shelby at the head of the Greater Sacramento Urban League is Cassandra Jennings, a well-known community leader who I have worked with in the past. Scott Syphax, President and CEO of Nehemiah Corporation of America, receives the Community Empowerment Award; and Kathy McKim, Vice President of External Affairs of AT&T, is being honored with the Community Impact Award. Finally, Laura Murrell receives the Young Professional Award tonight. All are leaders in our community and are deserving of these honors.

Mr. Speaker, as the members of the Greater Sacramento Urban League celebrate the organization's accomplishments and value to our Sacramento community, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring its work in Sacramento.

HONORING THE PLACEMENT OF "JOSEPHINE CITY" IN BERRYVILLE, VIRGINIA ON THE NATIONAL AND STATE REG- ISTERS OF HISTORIC PLACES

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 26, 2016

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that the Josephine Street community in Berryville, Virginia, has been officially designated a place of national historical significance and that the story of this proud African-American community has now been permanently included in the history of the Commonwealth of Virginia and of our nation.

On February 9, 2015, as the newly elected member of Congress representing the Northern Shenandoah Valley, I submitted a letter enthusiastically endorsing the community's application to the Virginia Department of Historic Resources and the National Park Service, to be placed on the state and national registers of historic places, and within months I received word that both designations had been granted.

What an incredibly inspiring place the Josephine Street community has been since its establishment in 1870, when the 24 founders—former slaves and free blacks—purchased 31 one-acre lots from the Clermont Farm property owned by Ellen McCormick and turned the land on either side of the mile-long street into a thriving community.

In June of 2014, I was privileged to have been a part of an extraordinary walking tour of the community and will never forget the wonderful presentations by the elders of the community such as Viola Brown and Geneva Jackson. During this walking tour, I learned that the history of "Josephine City" is the story of a proud, resilient and resourceful people who, despite the ongoing negative effects of slavery and adversity of segregation, used their own talents, energies, and good will to build a remarkably self-sufficient and caring community that thrives to this day.

Through the amazing energy and positive attitude of those early residents, a community had been created by the early 20th century that included a grade school and a high school, two churches, two public wells, two restaurants, stables, boarding houses (including one for teachers), a barber shop and gas station, a hat shop, a slaughterhouse, a clubhouse and a baseball team.

I want to thank the many committed people who have been involved in obtaining this important historical designation, including Ms. Dee Dee Liggins, Reverend James Page, Jr. and Mr. Kenny Liggins of the Josephine Improvement Association; the leaders of the Josephine School Community Museum, including Dorothy Davis, Helen Carr, and Norma Johnson; the elected officials of Clarke County and Berryville; the Board of Directors of the Clarke County Historic Preservation Commission; and especially, Maral Kalbian, the architectural historian of Clarke County.

All of these individuals and organizations have helped to ensure that future generations of Virginians and Americans will be inspired by the hard work and indomitable spirit of the residents of Josephine City who, despite adversity, created a thriving, caring, self-sufficient community that is a model for us all.

HONORING LUCILLE LOVETTE

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 26, 2016

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a driven and ambitious woman, Ms. Lucille Lovette. Lucille has shown what can be done through hard work, dedication and a desire to serve others.

Lucille Lovette, a resident of Anguilla, Mississippi, is the ninth of 15 siblings born into a family who believed in hard work and didn't believe in handouts.

Lovette earned a bachelor of science in elementary education degree from Mississippi Valley State University at Itta Bena, followed by a masters degree in educational leadership and supervision and a specialist degree in educational leadership and supervision, both from Delta State University in Cleveland, Mississippi.

She began her career as an office manager in 1978 for the South Delta School District (formerly known as Anguilla Line Consolidated School District) under the direction of a great superintendent who encouraged her to go a little further. Lovette was employed by the South Delta School District from 1978–2009, serving as curriculum director, federal programs director and principal. During her time as principal, she led in an elementary school with a starting enrollment of some 740 students and 90 faculty members. During her tenure, the students' grade level reading score on state assessments increased more than 38.4 percent and math scores on state assessment increased more than 70 percent. The school achieved an Exemplary and High Performing School rating. Also while as principal the South Delta Elementary School received the Torch Award granted by the Mississippi Department of Education.

In 1994 she was one of 13 teachers who were chosen by the state of Mississippi for a six week study with NASA.

Prior to serving as principal of South Delta Elementary School, Lovette worked as educational technologist at South Delta Middle School, and has served as an adult education teacher at Mississippi Delta Community College in Moorhead.

From 2009–2010 Lovette served as an educational leadership consultant at Dollarway Middle School in Pine Bluff, Arkansas and Eliza Miller Junior High School in Helena, Arkansas. She was employed as school improvement coordinator with the Indianola School district from 2010 until 2011 and from 2011 until 2013; she served as educational leadership consultant for the Jackson Public School District and the Senatobia Public School District.

Among the awards she has garnered during her years in education are: the Mississippi School Board Association's School Improvement Beacon Award in 2009; the Mississippi Success for All School Reading Award in 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, and 2007; the South Delta School District Administrator of the Year Award in 2007; Delta State University Educational Leadership Sabbatical in 2001; Mississippi Teacher of the Year State Finalist; Mississippi Second Congressional District Teacher of the Year in 2000; and South Delta Middle School and School District Teacher of the Year in 1998 and 2000.